

ReedSmith

Edward F. Behm, Jr.
Direct Phone: 215-241-5666
Email: ebehm@reedsmith.com

Reed Smith LLP
2500 One Liberty Place
1650 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7301
215.851.8100
Fax 215.851.1420



September 16, 2004

Commissioner of Patents Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/921,980
Ready To Use Food Product
Attorney Docket No. 01-40148-US (879388.20003)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response (15 pages);
2. Three Month Extension of Time (1 page);
3. A check in the amount of 475.00 for the extension of time for a small entity; and
4. A check in the amount of 172.00 for four (4) additional independent claims.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of these documents by returning the enclosed self-addressed, stamped post card to me.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required in connection with this filing to Account No. 18-0586.

Sincerely,

REED SMITH LLP

Edward F. Behm, Jr.

Enclosures

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE (37 CFR 1.10)

Express Mail Label No. EV48140700545

Date of Deposit Sept 16, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper, and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed, are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name JUDITH A. ZWEIG

Signature [Signature]

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